

NEW PERFINS FOR A.P.S. AND OUR CLUB

APS "First Day" April 30

The American Philatelic Society will have its own Perfin as of April 30. The APS single line Perfin will be used on all correspondence mailed from APS headquarters in State College, Pennsylvania.

Perfins Club members will have an opportunity to obtain first-day-of-use cancellations on three different stamps bearing the APS pattern, according to APS President Emerson Clark. The first day ceremonies will be held on April 30 in conjunction with SCOPEX '77, the 10th annual exhibition sponsored by the Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society. The Perfin pattern will be used first on the 13¢ American Eagle and Shield, the 13¢ Sound Recording commemorative, and on a pair of the 7.7¢ bulk rate coil. The stamps will be affixed to covers bearing an engraved cachet of the American Philatelic Society Building.

Two cancels will be used--a special SCOPEX '77 show cancel and the regular cancel of the American Philatelic Building postal station. That means there will be a total of six different "first day" covers for the new Perfin. The complete set of six covers may be ordered for \$2.75 (\$3.00 if mailing under separate cover is desired).

Orders with remittance made payable to Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society should be sent to P. O. Box 902, State College, PA 16801. For prompt handling of your order, please enclose sufficient return addressed labels for mailing the covers.

Perfins Club members in the area around State College, Pa., will want to make plans to attend the SCOPEX exhibit and be on hand for the first day ceremonies. Members who do attend should make sure they introduce themselves to APS Secretary Jim DeVoss so he will know Perfinners are present.

The Perfins Club is APS Affiliate #57. The decision to obtain a perforator for the APS was triggered by a routine review of APS affiliate publications. Colonel DeVoss was looking over the Library List published in the Bulletin late last year when he saw a listing for information about perforators.

Colonel DeVoss telephoned Secretary Floyd Walker who in turn contacted former President Joe Balough, who had obtained a perforator some years ago for the ELPEX exhibition in El Paso, Texas. Balough provided DeVoss with details about the perforator and shortly afterwards an order was placed.

It is interesting that after a rather lengthy period during which no "special Perfins" have been issued, we are having a spate of them this spring. Balough, who

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APS PERFIN (CONTINUED)

is now U. S. Catalog Chairman, says he is planning a special section in the U. S. Catalog for these Perfins. While they are Perfins in the most genuine sense, their use--for commemoration or publicity rather than purely for security--does put them into a special category.

Incidentally, used copies of the APS Perfin will gradually become quite common as the APS uses the design on all its outgoing mail. Club members who are not members of the APS may secure a used copy of the Perfin from Secretary Floyd Walker. He will provide the copies as they become available to any member who wants one. And APS members with extras may send them to Walker for distribution.